IN THE CLAIMS:

1.   (currently amended) A method for utilizing~~of recognizing~~ a data format preference of a device, comprising:~~the steps of~~

connecting a device to a network having a data repository;

sending a device format preference to ~~the~~said data repository ~~of the network~~ when the device is connected to the network; and

utilizing, on the network, the device format preference from the data repository ~~on the network, so that the network can recognize the~~ in preparing data for transmission to said device.

2.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~which~~ further ~~comprises~~comprising saving the device format preference in the data repository.

3.   (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the device format preference is sent with a device identifier.

4.   (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the device format preference is saved with a network address of the device to be used as a device identifier by the data repository.

5.   (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the device connected to the network sends the device format preference each time it is connected to the network.

6.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the network is <u>an</u>

automatic configuration network, so that any device connected thereto sends the device

format preference upon initial connection to the network.

7.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:~~:~~ ~~the steps~~

~~of~~

sending a request for specific information by the device;

extracting<u>, by the data repository from data storage,</u> specific information~~from a~~

~~data storage by the data repository~~;

retrieving the device format preference by the data repository using ~~the~~<u>a</u> device

identifier;

formatting the specific information according to the device format preference; and

sending the specific information <u>over the network </u>to the device from the data

repository~~over the network~~.

8.   (currently amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein the device

is an electronic device<u>,</u> and the request for the specific information and device format

preference are <u>embodied as</u>~~in the form of~~ one or more data packets.

9.   (original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the data repository is

an extensible Markup Language (XML) data repository.

10.　　(currently amended) The method according to claim 7 wherein the data repository includes an <u>extensible Markup Language (XML)</u> database in communication with an Extensible Stylesheet <u>Language</u> Transform<u>ation</u> (XSLT) engine in communication with the network.

11.　　(currently amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein the request for information is in an <u>Extensible Stylesheet Language (XSL)</u> stylesheet.

12.　　(currently amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein the network is an <u>In-Home Digital Network (IHDN)</u>.

13.　　(original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the device is any one of the group comprising a personal computer, personal digital assistant, television, video cassette recorder, personal video recorder, remote control, and audio system, and the specific information requested is electronic program guide information.

14.　　(currently amended) A method ~~of~~<u>for</u> recognizing a ~~device~~<u>preferred</u> format ~~preference for excerpted electronic program guide information~~ of a device ~~on an IHDN network, the method~~ comprising: ~~the steps~~

connecting the device to <u>an In-Home Digital Network (IHDN)</u>~~the~~ network that has an <u>extensible Markup Language (XML)</u> data repository;

sending an <u>Extensible Stylesheet Language (XSL)</u> stylesheet request for excerpted <u>electronic programming guide (EPG)</u> information, including a device format

4

preference from the device, over the IHDN network to an <u>Extensible Stylesheet</u>

<u>Language Transformation (XSLT)</u> engine in communication with the XML data

repository; and

utilizing, on the network, ~~the~~<u>said</u> device format preference from the XML data

repository <u>in preparing data for transmission to said</u> ~~on the network, so that the network~~

~~can recognize the~~ device.

15.   (currently amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising

extracting the requested excerpted EPG information by the XSLT engine from the

XML data repository;

formatting the excerpted EPG information in accordance with ~~the data~~<u>said device</u>

format preference ~~of the device~~; and

sending the excerpted EPG information by the XSLT engine to the device over

the IHDN network.

16.   (currently amended) A system for <u>using a format preferred for</u>~~recognizing~~

~~a data format preference of~~ a device, the system comprising<u>:</u>

a network that includes a data repository;

~~the~~<u>said</u> device<u>,</u> connected to the network<u>,</u> ~~wherein the device has~~ <u>and having</u> a

data format preference;<u> and</u>

a data packet containing a request for specific information<u>, said packet including</u>

<u>said data</u> ~~that includes the device~~ format preference, wherein the data packet is prepared

by the device and transmitted over the network to ~~the~~<u>said</u> data repository<u>,</u>~~of the network;~~

said network being configured for using, in preparing data for transmission to said device, said~~the~~ data ~~repository stores the device~~ format preference stored by said data repository~~, so that the network can recognize the device~~.

17.   (currently amended) The system of claim 16, ~~further comprising~~wherein ——the data repository extracts the specific information of the request, formats the specific information in accordance with ~~the device~~said data format preference, and transmits the specific information over the communication network to the device.

18.   (currently amended) The system according to claim 16, wherein the data repository is an extensible Markup Language (XML) data repository, which includes an XML database in connection with an Extensible Stylesheet Language Transformation (XSLT) engine, and the request for specific information and the device format preference are in an Extensible Stylesheet Language (XSL) stylesheet.

19.   (currently amended) The system according to claim 16, wherein the network is an In-Home Digital Network (IHDN).

20.   (original) The system according to claim 16, wherein the specific information requested is electronic programming guide information.